

OPPORTUNITY

(Written for the Christian Science Monitor)

In the ordinary sense of the word, opportunity represents the most elusive human desires, the least possible to claim or to depend upon to any extent in one's experience. It would seem to be the will-o'-the-wisp of mortal existence, impossible to catch no matter how eagerly sought, lighting here and there at random, and thought to be as often passed by in disguise as received with conscious joy.

Under the white light of divine metaphysics it is found to be exactly the reverse, which is always the case when comparing material things with spiritual, for they are directly and inevitably opposed. When examined in the light of Truth, opportunity is found to be the awakening to the knowledge of ever-present good. Opportunity, then, in the true sense is an entirely universal, impartial term. Let us think of God as infinite good, that is, good as all-presence, hence also Spirit, or Mind, we must also think of Mind as infinite good, as knowing no evil. Hence, all of Mind's ideas, God's spiritual creation forever expressed, are good, "rejoicing the heart." Can any word, in this consideration, more fittingly express Spirit, infinite good, divine Mind, than Love, —the Father of all? Therefore, through a better understanding of Love we shall awake to real opportunity, spiritually manifested, and within the intelligent grasp of every individual. Mrs. Eddy, in her great work of demonstrating pure Christianity, and setting forth a religion of love, practical and adaptable to all the needs of humanity, as Jesus taught and demonstrated it, knew of the limitless benefits of an understanding of divine Love, and gave living water to many thirsting human hearts when she wrote, "Love is impartial and universal in its adaptation and bestowals. It is the open fount which cries, 'Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters.'" (Science and Health with Keys to the Scriptures, p. 13.)

Christian Science also teaches that God is divine Principle, the creator expressed in His creation, through spiritual law. Thus we think of God as Truth, Life, and Love, governing all reality as divine Principle, and thereby establishing the harmony of man and the universe. Hence it is man's privilege to reflect good, Principle, in all of his affairs, since man is God's image, and can therefore never be really separated from the source of his being. When we think of God as perfect, or divine Mind, and realize that Mind can create only ideas of the same quality as and incapable of anything not contained in that Mind, we can plainly see that His idea, man, is wholly perfect, reflecting, as do the sun's rays reflect the sun, the nature and likeness of his Maker. The human mind rebels at the thought of perfection, because no erroneous belief can behold Truth and live, but it is true that all the

issues of Life and reality are governed by divine Principle, which "is not mocked," and no good thing is withheld from those who understand and abide by the unchanging laws of harmony. The carnal mind or the material sense of things, is not put off at once, but opportunity and progress go hand in hand, and we must learn of real and eternal things, and give place to the true as fast as possible. In other words, God's laws are ever in operation, and are spiritually discerned. We must gradually lift thought from the false to the absolute, and so doing, are directly governed by Principle, necessarily including both opportunity and ability to comply with God's laws. Love cannot be deprived of the manifestation of love. This thought is expressed exactly on page 256 of Science and Health: "Progress takes off human shackles. The finite must yield to the infinite. Advancing to a higher plane of action, thought rises from the material sense to the spiritual, from the scholastic to the inspirational, and from the mortal to the immortal. All things are created spiritually. Mind, not matter, is the creator. Love, the divine Principle, is the Father and Mother of the universe, including man."

Human hopes and fears would, if they could, stifle opportunity. If regarded and obeyed, they would leave one in a waste, howling wilderness of turmoil and confusion, baffled and unsupported, with no haven in view. But the saving Truth of divine metaphysics has been restored to the world, teaching us to look away from material sense to Soul, to the things of God as real, potent factors in our everyday experience. Man, depending on God, finds true substance, the imperishable things of Spirit. God is divine Mind, and in proportion as we strive for that Mind to govern us which governed Christ Jesus,—he, who, more than all others was conscious of his divine sonship,—thought will be spiritually molded and purified, elevated to appreciate and grasp reality. Mrs. Eddy has beautifully and truly described our human pilgrimage, in likening it to the wanderings of the children of Israel, who finally found refuge in Truth. She says, "As the children of Israel were guided triumphantly through the Red Sea, the dark ebbing and flowing tides of human fear,—as they were led through the wilderness, walking wearily through the great desert of human hopes, and anticipating the promised joy,—so shall the spiritual idea guide all right desires in their passage from sense to Soul, from a material sense of existence to the spiritual, up to the glory prepared for them who love God." (Science and Health, p. 566.) The way, though narrow, leads ever to the promised joy, and treading trustfully therein, we shall realize more and more perfectly the ever-present, the allness of good, and man's inalienable right of opportunity.

Watermelon honors are claimed by East Prairie, which, with the season half over, has shipped 170 carloads. It is expected 1/2 million melons will be loaded there before the season ends.

Green county's meanest man is said without fear of contradiction to be a farmer who when his mother came from Marionville to visit him, refused to take her out to his home or have anything to do with her and she had to go back again.

A new record in babydom is claimed by Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Arnold of Atchison county, 63 and 52 years old respectively, since the arrival of a 10-pound girl, their sixteenth child. Fifteen of the children are living.

After considering the high cost of meat, Clinton hunters recently met in the office of the county clerk, formed a club and took up an assessment for the purchase of a pair of coon hounds.

Mississippi county is a great watermelon section, and the crops are usually profitable. This year one farmer had sixty acres of wheat and eighteen acres of watermelons. The yield of wheat sold for \$350, while the melons brought about \$500. The same ratio prevailed on other farms.

While putting on some "monkey shines" with a rope attached to a hoisting bucket being used in digging a hole, "Uncle" Billy Williams had wrapped the rope about his neck when someone accidentally gave the engineer a signal to hoist away. The breath left "Uncle" Billy suddenly as his feet cleared the ground, but he grasped the rope with his hands and kept the noose slack until he could be let down, the Vandavia Mail says.

"Uncle Billy" Houx, of Knob Noster, feels right badly because he missed voting at the last primary, the first election he has ever missed. He voted first for James K. Polk for President in 1844, and saw Polk inaugurated next year. He has voted for all Missouri governors except the first five or six while he was growing up to voting age.

In climbing among the branches of a tree at Fayette the other day one of the party of youths who were watching a ball game came in contact with a live wire and was electrocuted. The tree was so heavily charged that the other boys could not get down until the power was turned off.

That the early bird catches the worm won't hold with a flock of Joplin chickens, only in this case it's bugs. About twenty-five pullets and roosters spent their evenings under an arc light at the intersection of two avenues gobbling up the insects which the glare of the light attracts. They have been seen out as late as midnight.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

In the Buchanan County Circuit Court to the October Term, A. D. 1916. STATE OF MISSOURI ss.

County of Buchanan ss. Louie Harmon, Plaintiff, vs. Thomas E. Harmon, Defendant. Now at this day came the plaintiff by her attorney, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Clerk of the Circuit Court in vacation that said defendant, Thomas E. Harmon, is a non-resident of the State of Missouri, and does not reside therein, it is ordered that said non-resident be notified by publication, as required by law, that said plaintiff has commenced her suit in this Court against said defendant by petition and affidavit, the object and nature of which is to obtain a divorce on the ground of indignities such as to render her life intolerable in this state. That said defendant assaulted plaintiff, struck her with his fists in a brutal manner; that he attempted to cut her throat with a razor; that he often cursed and abused her and many times threatened her life; that he had an ungovernable temper and that he was at all times very abusive against plaintiff; that unless said Thomas E. Harmon shall be and appear at the next term of this Court, to be begun and held at the Court House, in the City of St. Joseph, in Buchanan County, State of Missouri, on the 22nd day of October, 1916, on or before the third day of said term, to answer plaintiff's petition, the same will be taken for confessed and judgment rendered accordingly.

It is further ordered that a copy of this order be published in the St. Joseph Observer, a newspaper published in the County of Buchanan, for four weeks successively, the last insertion of which to be at least fifteen days before the next October term of this Court.

A copy. Attest: ROSS C. COX, Clerk. By Stella Whitehead, Deputy Clerk. Merritt & Reese, Attorneys for Plaintiff.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

In the Buchanan County Circuit Court to the October Term, A. D. 1916. STATE OF MISSOURI ss.

County of Buchanan ss. John R. Shields, Plaintiff, vs. Beattie Shields, Defendant. Now at this day came the plaintiff by his attorney, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Clerk of the Circuit Court in vacation that said defendant, Beattie Shields, is a non-resident of the State of Missouri, and does not reside therein, it is ordered that said non-resident be notified by publication, as required by law, that said plaintiff has commenced her suit in this Court against said defendant by petition and affidavit, the object and nature of which is to obtain a decree of divorce from defendant on the ground of indignities such as to render her condition in life intolerable. That said defendant failed and refused to cook and keep the house clean; that she was quarrelsome; that she carried on correspondence with other men; that unless said defendant shall be and appear at the next term of this Court, to be begun and held at the Court House, in the City of St. Joseph, in Buchanan County, State of Missouri, on the 22nd day of October, 1916, on or before the third day of said term, to answer plaintiff's petition, the same will be taken for confessed and judgment rendered accordingly.

It is further ordered that a copy of this order be published in the St. Joseph Observer, a newspaper published in the

County of Buchanan, for four weeks successively, the last insertion of which to be at least fifteen days before the next October term of this Court.

A copy. Attest: ROSS C. COX, Clerk. By R. M. Duncan, Deputy Clerk. S. R. Owen, Attorney for Plaintiff.

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT. Notice is hereby given to all creditors and others interested in the estate of Frederick W. Weirich, deceased, that I, Mary A. Williams, public administrator within and for the County of Buchanan, State of Missouri, in charge of said estate, intend to make Final Settlement thereof at the next term of the Probate Court of Buchanan County, State of Missouri, to be held at the Court House in St. Joseph, Mo., on the second Monday of September, 1916.

MARY A. WILLIAMS, Public Administrator in charge of the Estate of Frederick W. Weirich, Deceased.

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT. Notice is hereby given to all creditors and others interested in the estate of Wm. H. Prindle, deceased, that I, Arthur R. Prindle, administrator of said estate, intend to make Final Settlement thereof at the next term of the Probate Court of Buchanan County, State of Missouri, to be held at the Court House in St. Joseph, Mo., on the second Monday of September, 1916.

ARTHUR R. PRINDLE, Administrator.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE. Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary upon the estate of Louisa A. Johnson, deceased, have been granted to the undersigned, by the Probate Court of Buchanan County, Missouri, bearing date of the 24th day of July, 1916.

All persons having claims against said estate are required to exhibit them to me for allowance, within six months from date of said letters, or they may be precluded from any benefit of such estate; and if said claims be not exhibited within one year from the date of the publication of this notice, they will be forever barred.

L. E. RICKETTS, Executor.

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT. Notice is hereby given to all creditors and others interested in the estate of Charles W. Patten, deceased, that I, Mary A. Williams, public administrator and administrator with the will annexed of the estate of Charles W. Patten, deceased, intend to make Final Settlement thereof at the next term of the Probate Court of Buchanan County, State of Missouri, to be held at the Court House in St. Joseph, Mo., on the second Monday of September, 1916.

MARY A. WILLIAMS, Public Administrator and Administrator with the Will Annexed of the Estate of Charles W. Patten, Deceased.

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT. Notice is hereby given to all creditors and others interested in the estate of Wyatt Boone Price, deceased, that I, Carrie Foster, administrator of said estate, intend to make Final Settlement thereof at the next term of the Probate Court of Buchanan County, State of Missouri, to be held at the Court House in St. Joseph, Mo., on the second Monday of September, 1916.

CARRIE FOSTER, Administratrix. By W. H. UTZ, Attorney.

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NEWS FROM ALL OVER IMPERIAL MISSOURI

Interesting Happenings Which Have Taken Place in the Greatest State in the Union.

The Product of the Scissors, the Pen and a Little Actual Labor

Hopkins is to have a three day picnic on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, September 14, 15 and 16.

Hot weather is causing pawpaws and persimmons to ripen and fall from the trees in the Ozarks.

Not a single marriage, but five suits filed for divorce in the Harrison county record last week.

Nodaway county gets \$20,091.10 from the state school fund this year. This is an increase of about \$500 over last year.

At Maryville the bakers have combined and raised the price of bread owing to the high price of flour.

It is reported from Jefferson City that the new state capital will be in readiness for the inauguration of Governor Frederick D. Gardner early next January.

Sure enough J. N. Cole won a blue ribbon prize on his 65 ears of Yellow Dent corn displayed at the street fair at Forest City, last week. The weight was 88 pounds net.

For endeavoring to teach a man with no legs how to do the buck and wing dance, a visitor to Moberly was booked to appear before the police judge.

J. M. Burg, living on Route 1 out of Rock Port has sent The Mail a sample of alfalfa taken from a field of twelve acres at the third cutting. Twelve acres of pure, heavy alfalfa

with no weeds and measuring thirty-seven inches in height.—Atchison County Mail.

Adrian is a Missouri town that has heretofore been niggerless, and many children of that place saw their first negro the other day when a bunch of black women making up a Colored Bloomer base ball club hit that town.

There are two kinds of prohibition: Prohibition used for political purposes, and practical prohibition. Clinton county has both classes. The kind for political purposes is used by many a little cocklebur statesman to boost himself into office.—Clinton County Democrat.

In a few days Missouri will pass the 100,000 mark in motor cars. Last Friday the state license department had issued 98,907 license tags. Applications for licenses were coming in at the rate of 175 a day.

During the heated term in St. Louis, there were two kinds of eggs on the produce market—"eggs" and "just eggs." An idea of the difference may be gleaned from the prices. For "eggs" 40 cents a dozen was asked, while "just eggs" sold for seven cents a dozen.

A 12 year old boy was killed at his parents home at Jefferson City one day last week by a shotgun which fell from the rack when another boy of the household slammed the door. The shot from the gun penetrated the heart of the boy.



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